



the RARA RAG

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ROCHESTER AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

VOL.53

MAY 2001

NO. 9

Old Timer's Night

Ed Gable, K2MP

SO YOU THINK YOUR ANTENNA IS BIG?

You've got multiple towers, big yagis and lots of wire. Well, as the saying goes, you ain't seen nothin' yet.

For Old Timer's Night this year Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN, will take you back to the days of really, really, BIG antennas, plus a few transmitters to boot. For example, does your wire antenna have 96 insulators, 400 feet in the air, with each weighing 110 pounds like the one pictured below?



You'll see this extravaganza, and much more, during the new AWA slide show prepared just for RARA.

RARA Annual Meeting

May 4, 2001

Henrietta Fire Hall, 3129 E. Henrietta Rd.

Election Night and

Old Timers Night

Presented by Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN

Annual Meeting

Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

Each year the annual meeting for RARA is held in May. This meeting is used for the purpose of electing the Officers, Board of Directors, and the dues structure for the following year. Therefore it is important for each member to attend this meeting. Not only that, but after the business portion of the meeting you will enjoy the Old Timer's Night being presented by Ed Gable, K2MP/W2AN.

The following is a letter that was sent to Keith Freeberg, N2BEL from the nominations committee and was read at the April meeting:

Mr. Keith Freeberg, N2BEL
President
Rochester Amateur Radio Association

Dear Mr. Freeberg

In accordance with the direction from the Board of Directors Mr. Rick Wells, W2RW, Mr. Warren Boudrie, AA2LQ, and myself, Robert Moore, N2USB, assembled as a Nominating Committee for the selection of candidates for the year 2001 and 2002 term. The following slate of Candidates were selected and are recommended by the Nominating Committee to the Board of Directors for presentation to the Rochester Amateur Radio Association General Membership.

President
Peter Fournia, W2SKY

Vice President
Mary Kay Vesco, KC2DPG

Secretary
William Kasperkoski, WB2SXY

Treasurer
Richard Gosley, K2VCZ

Board Members: Select 7 Members

Bill Hopkins, AA2YV
John Rogers, W2JTR
George S. Masny, KA2GPJ
Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

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Public Service Coordinator: Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH
License Testing Director: George Platteter, AA2FO
Membership Chairman: Alex Piccirilli, NV2Y
Hamfest General Chairman: Harold Smith, K2HC
K2JD Engraving: Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH
Public Relations: Keith Freeberg, N2BEL
License Class Director: Tim Magee, WB2KAO
Web Page Administrator: Peter Fournia, W2SKY
Club Station Trustee: Edwin Holdsworth, N2EH

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RARA Life Membership is available for twenty times the annual dues.

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Jack Tripp, N2SNL
Keith Freeberg, N2BEL
Al Skiles, W2AES
Roger Harnaart, N2MXN

Respectfully submitted

Robert A. Moore, N2USB
Chairman

Remember that you will be given the opportunity to nominate people for any office at the May meeting. Just make sure that you talk to the person that you want to nominate ahead of time to be sure that they are interested in the position.

As is customary each year the candidates that are running for an office are allowed to put a short biographical sketch of themselves in the RAG. The follow are those Bios:

VICE PRESIDENT

MaryKay Vesco, KC2DPG

I would like to start out by saying, THANK YOU TO THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE for nominating me for such an important part of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc. I would be proud and honored to serve as the FIRST Woman Vice President for RARA. I attended RARA's licensing classes and I got my first ticket on May 20, 1998 as a Technician Plus. I continued taking classes through RARA and studying on my own until I upgraded to Extra Class on March 25, 1999. As soon as I got my Extra Class License, George Platteter, AA2FO, our License Testing Director, helped me to get accredited through W5YI as a Volunteer Examiner. I have attended just about all of the testing sessions from then until the present. We are currently testing with the ARRL Accreditation.

I am just finishing my second term of serving on the RARA Board Of Directors. While I was on the Board Of Directors, I attended most of the General RARA Meetings and most of the Board Of Directors Meetings. I am proud to be part of RARA.

SECRETARY

Bill Kasperkoski, WB2SXY

Bill Kasperkoski knows that our real-estate, our Amateur frequency assignment, is literally worth billions of dollars in auctions to commercial interests, so he encourages all experimentation, operation activity and testing especially in our VHF/UHF/microwave bands. "We must keep our public-service face forward as this is the best argument that we have to retain our spectrum assignment. I know that amateurs will continue to make strides in

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Hamfest Programs – Part IV

Lloyd R. Caves, WB2EFU

This is the final installment of this article. That means that the Hamfest is just around the corner. The RARA Hamfest committee hopes that everyone is ready for this year's activity and will be enjoying the weekend of June 1-3. Along with the large flea market area, the Dome Arena filled with commercial exhibitors, the programs and meetings, there is the Awards Banquet held at the Marriott Hotel. This is a place to enjoy a great meal with your friends and fellow hams at the end of the day on Friday. You will also find out to whom the ARRL's Atlantic Division Amateur of the Year and the Technical Achievement Award will be presented to. Who knows, there may be more awards than just these being presented to deserving folks. Get your tickets for this event and the Hamfest ordered now!

In the past three months this column has given you a brief description of all the programs that will be taking place this year. The following is the schedule of all these programs so that you can schedule your time to attend those of interest to you:

Friday

Second Floor – Rooms A and B

- 1:00 – 5:00 — VE Testing**
All exam elements to be given by George Plattater, AA2FO, and his VE team.

Doom Floor – Room 3

- 2:30 – 4:00 — Atlantic Division Affiliated Club Conference**
Lead by Bill Edger, N3LLR, Atlantic Division Vice-Director

Saturday

Second Floor – Room A

- 9:30-11:30 — The VHF Group Meeting**
Hosted by Mark Hoffman K2AXX, The VHF Group Chairman
- 12:00 – 1:00 — ARRL Forum**
Hosted by Bernie Fuller, N3EFN, Atlantic Division Director and Bill Edgar, N3LLR, Atlantic Division Vice-Director
- 1:30 – 2:30 — Radio Control Modeling**
Presented by Mark Wharton, KØLO, President of the State College, PA Radio Control Club
- 3:30 – 4:30 — PSK31 and MFSK16**
Presented by Bill Hopkins, AA2YU

Second Floor – Room B

- 9:00 – 10:00 — Hands On Antenna Construction**
Demonstrated by Ed Hare, W1RFI, ARRL Lab. Supervisor
- 10:30 – 11:30 — DXCC In 2001**
Presented by Dan Henderson, N1ND, ARRL Contest Branch Manager
- 1:00 – 2:00 — Western New York Section Meeting**
Lead by Scott Bauer, W2LC, Western NY Section Manager
- 2:30 – 3:30 — QRP Operating**
Presented by Ed Hare, W2RFI, ARRL Lab. Supervisor

Dome Floor – Room 3

- 9:00 – 10:00 — Happenings In The National-Traffic System**
Presented by Bill Thompson, W2MTA, NTS Official
- 10:30 – 12:00 — Joint MARS forum**
Hosted by Steve Pertgen, AAA2NY (W2FXJ), NY State Army MARS Director; Wells Farr, AFFINY, NY State Air Force MARS Director; and Ed Kessler, NNNØGBJ, Coordinator, Northern NY Navmarcomars
- 1:00 – 2:00 — Contesting In The Cabrillo Age**
Presented by Dan Henderson, N1ND, ARRL Contest Branch Manager
- 2:30 – 3:30 — General RACES Meeting**
Presented by Ken Goetz, N2SQW, NYS Radio Officer

Doom Floor – Rooms 1 and 2

- 1:00 – 5:00 — VE Testing**
All exam elements to be given by George Plattater, AA2FO, and his VE team.

Doom Floor in a Booth

- All Day — W2 “RUF ‘n Ready” Code Proficiency Tests**
Given by Kevin T. Kedzierski, WA2FKV, Special Events Coordinator for the Radio Association of WNY

Dome Floor in the ARRL Booth

- All Weekend — DX Card Certification**
To be administered by Dan Henderson, N1ND, ARRL Contest Branch Manager

June 16th RARA Picnic

Peter Fournia, W2SKY

The RARA picnic starts about 12 noon Saturday, June 16th at the Creekside Lodge in Ellison Park. It's a time for casual eyeball QSO's, sharing food, sharing stories and finding the hidden transmitter. A door prize will be drawn and prizes will be available for other games and for finding the hidden transmitter. We will be at the Creekside Lodge at Ellison Park in the Brighton - Penfield area. Take the Blossom Rd. exit off Rt. 590 North and drive about 1 mile away from the city. Parking is at the bottom of the hill, in the large parking lot on the left side (West) of Blossom Rd. There will be a sign. The lodge is on the other side of the creek. Talk-in will be on the 146.88 repeater.

Bring some food to pass and a friend to share ham radio with. Soda will be provided at club expense. Also bring your HT and best body fade technique if you want to find the hidden transmitter. Lawn chairs are a good idea although ample picnic tables are available inside and outside the lodge.

PUBLIC SERVIC SCHEDULE

R.E. Ginna Radiological Pre Drill
May 2, 2001

R.E. Ginna Radiological Drill
June 6, 2001

Tour de Cure
June 9, 2001

Stuart Horse Trials
July 28, 2001

Walnut Hill Carriage Show
August 15-20, 2001

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Annual Meeting — continued from page 2

developing new break throughs in communication technology and modes in the years ahead."

Bill has been working as the general class theory instructor since 1997 for the RARA licensing classes. First licensed in 1964, Bill holds an old Amateur Extra Class license, DXCC, WAS and WAC and considers himself an avid CW rag chew operator and is serious about his QSLing chores. He has volunteered several years in the Thruway Pumpkin Patrol, the K2RRA/Hamfest talk-in-station, walk a thons, Monroe County FM Net control operator, and Scout Jamboree on the Air Special Event station as an operator and QSL manager.

Bill holds a GROL ex: FCC 1st Phone with Radar Endorsement, and worked in commercial radio and TV in the Rochester area, and as a network and microwave engineer for a wireless ISP. Currently Bill works in telephone UNIX computer systems and data base administration.

In the military, Bill's experience was used in Fort Benning at an educational TV facility and overseas as the Training NCO for his USARV unit. Bill worked in a commercial 2-way radio shop and ran the (Kodak) Elmgrove 2-way radio, repeater and pager shop for several years. Other experience includes broadband and computer network plants, including operations control center and a high voltage welding laser lab / production area, copier and other electronic servicing.

Bill has volunteered in Scouts for about 15 years as an Assistant Scout and Cub Master, Den Leader and Awards Manager. He has worked on Scout District and Council staffs for adult leader training, Pow-Wows, and monthly round-tables and earned adult Woodbadge and Order of the Arrow.

Bill is an ARRL and FISTS member.

TREASURER

DICK GOSLEE, K2VCZ

First licensed in 1956 as KN2VCZ, Dick holds an Extra class license. He has been a member of RARA for 20 years and has served on the Board of Directors for the last 17 years. He is a past President and has been serving as RARA's Treasurer since 1987. He taught theory for the Novice/Tech class for RARA for 5 years and has also taught the Advanced class. Dick is the Editor of the annual RARA Directory, and is a member of the K2JD Engraving Team.

Dick is employed as the Director of Engineering for Quality Protections Systems, a manufacturer of Lightning Warning Systems for golf courses. Also, combining his love of Drag Racing with employment he is employed as an IHRA Certified Technical Inspector and the Chief Starter at NY International Raceway Park, in Leicester, NY, and he also works at Norwalk Raceway Park in Norwalk, Ohio. When he can find some free time he enjoys fishing

and camping with his wife Susan (N2HKA) and his daughters Karen (KB2CHE) and Cathie (KB2ESZ).

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

John Rogers, W2JTR

I have been approached by your present board members and asked to run for a board position. As a prerequisite, I am writing this short resume to provide you with some personal background information and my reasons for wishing to join the Board of Directors of RARA.

I was born in Canada and raised in Nova Scotia. I have an engineering degree from Nova Scotia Tech and an MTC from the University of Western Ontario. I was transferred to Rochester in 1988 and after 6 months of living here both my wife and I decided we could not find a better place to raise our children. We have two children, a daughter, 17, and a son 13. We reside in Spencerport.

I have been interested in Ham Radio from a very young age. An uncle, VE1NY, let me talk on his rig when I was 6 and I was smitten. It wasn't until 1995 that I took the initiative to take a course provided by RARA and got my Tech License. I am now a General and presently taking the EXTRA classes.

I'm no different than most of you when it comes to time. Raising a family and business travel leaves me scrambling for personal time. Yet, I am willing to give some of this time to RARA. Why? There are three reasons. The first is the membership. One of the reasons my wife and I decided to stay in Rochester was the friendly attitude and helpfulness of the people. RARA personifies this. I would have never got my license if it wasn't for RARA members giving their time and talents (for FREE) to teach me radio theory and code. I wish to give some time back to RARA. The second reason is the hobby itself. This hobby gives me great pleasure and hopefully as a board member I'll be able to assist in developing programs to increase the awareness to non Hams, of the fun one can have with ham radio. The third reason is somewhat of a selfish one. Over the past few years I have increased my knowledge of Ham radio by just attending the monthly meetings of both RARA and BARK. The tech talks and the conversations before and after the meetings are of great value to me. Hopefully as a board member, I will continue to increase my knowledge by more active participation with the RARA organization.

Thank you for considering me.

George Masny, KA2GPJ

Currently a General Class licensee, George has managed to keep this call active since 1975 in spite of being married and helping his wife raise 3 wonderful kids. He has been fiddling with radios since 1957, when he used a toilet paper roll core to wind the coil for a crystal set. The radio worked great - it picked up a lot of Spanish speaking stations. Of

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RARA RAG 20 Years Ago, May 1981

Ed Gable, K2MP

This was RARA's Annual Business Meeting that included election of officers and Board members. The Nominating Committee consisted of Ash Palmer, K2EAW; Al Mumby, WB2MCP; Roger Dennis, WB2HWO; and the then current RARA President Otto Bluntzer, WB2RJB. Results of the election will be reported next month. Program Chairman Don Drennon, W2EBF brought an interesting program entitled 7J1RL *Okino-Tori-Shima*. That film covered the exciting adventures of a Japanese DX operation from a small island that is completely under water during high tide. It was reported that Gregory Quenell, WA2BWO, a student at East Rochester High School, received the *National Honor Society's National Merit Award*, having been selected from 1.1 million students. The annual Chair Prize was won by Dave Hassett, K2SQL. An article by Ray Pickens, WA2MYG, details the activities of a relatively new activity, that of formal traffic handling in VHF FM. Very effective use of repeaters has made wide area coverage possible. The W2ZIA Weathersfield repeater on 04/64 is the main frequency. Stan Zack, KA2U, reported that he was looking for volunteers to provide communications for the Iron Man Triathlon to be held at *Hamlin Beach State Park* in August. From the Want Ads, you could buy a Heath SB-303 receiver from Chuck Oneske, K2YCO, for \$225.00.



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SILENT KEYS

Edward (Cappy) R. Capauldy, K2UXF
RARA Past President
March 7, 2001

NYS PRB-1 Law

Bernie Fuller, N3EFN

We have a real chance to enact a law in the State of New York that we believe will solve most of our "tower problems."

We came very close to getting our bill passed last year. Our bill made it through three committees in the Assembly last year before time ran out and the session ended. Our bills, A. 1565, and S 2893 will enable amateur radio operators to put up effective antennas without long, costly battles with their local governments to get a building permit.

We need to point out to legislators that Amateur radio operators provide an emergency communications network that is disaster-tested and robust. We provide this service free of charge to the citizens of New York, a service that would require many millions of tax dollars to replace. A key element of a radio amateur's capability to communicate is a small radio tower but high enough to ensure effective communication.

Let them know that federal law already requires that reasonable accommodation be made for these amateur radio support structures that serve the public interest; however local town, municipalities and radio amateurs cannot easily bear the burden of resolving local disputes over what is "reasonable." This delays replacing key elements of the amateur radio emergency network. Hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal, court and expert witness fees are spent annually to resolve these matters.

Ten states have already acted. Therefore, it is in the interest of the citizens of New York State that there be enacted into law specific guidance regarding the minimum height below which local government and municipalities cannot restrict amateur radio antennas.

Unless you send this message and persuade your New York State Assemblyman and Senator to co-sponsor or support Assembly Bill A 1565 (Tocci) and Senate Bill S2893 (Volker, Larkin, Maziarz, McGee) New York hams won't have a chance at an effective antenna!

Contact your Assemblyman and tell them about the benefits of Amateur Radio to your local community, the state of New York and the nation. Also write to the important Local Government Committee Chairpersons, Assemblyman Thomas P. DiNapoli, LOB 621, Albany, NY 12248, and Senator Mary Lou Rath, 817 LOB, Albany, NY 12247. Please send a letter or QSL card to Speaker of the Assembly, Sheldon Silver, LOB 932/CAP 349, Albany, NY 12248, and to Senate Majority Leader, Joseph L. Bruno, 909 LOB, Albany, NY 12247. Get your relatives, friends and neighbors to do the same. Please, ask everyone you know to tell his or her state representatives to support the bill. We need thousands of letters to be effective!

Check <http://www.arrl.hudson.org> for more information and sample letters.

Tell your legislators about our long proud history of public service and tell them we need this antenna law so that we can continue to do our important emergency communications job with no cost to the state. Write a letter. Make a phone call. Send an E-mail.

Here is a sample letter:

Your address _____ date _____

Dear Assemblyman or Senator _____,

I am an amateur radio operator and resident in your district. Please help us amateur radio operators to continue to provide emergency communications to New York State residents by either cosponsoring or supporting Assembly Bill A 1565-A (Tocci) and Senate Bill S 2893-A (Volker, Larkin, Maziarz, McGee).

Amateur radio operators provide an emergency communications network that is disaster-tested and robust. We provide this service free of charge to the citizens of New York, a service that would require many millions of dollars to replace. We are, in many ways, like volunteer firemen, but we respond to communications emergencies rather than fires. Amateur radio is a voluntary, non-commercial communications service. A key element of a radio amateur's capability is a small radio tower high enough to ensure effective communication. This law will help make sure that state amateur radio operators continue to do this job. Cell phones and the Internet go down in storms and power outage but amateur radio does not.

Federal law already requires that reasonable accommodation be made for these amateur radio support structures that serve the public interest; however local towns, municipalities and radio amateurs cannot easily bear the burden of resolving local disputes over what is "reasonable." This delays replacing key elements of the amateur radio emergency network. Hundreds of thousands of dollars in legal, court and expert witness fees are spent annually to resolve these matters. It's not fair to expect volunteers to bear this financial burden. Ten other states have already enacted legislation to remedy the situation.

Therefore, it is in the interest of the citizens of New York State that there be enacted into law specific guidance regarding the minimum height below which local government and municipalities cannot restrict amateur radio antennas. This bill does that.

Thank you for your support of amateur radio, a hobby that allows me to help my neighbors when they need emergency communications.

Yours truly,

Your name and callsign

Your letters are needed badly and are very important to all of us. Thank you for your help.

Editor — The following is a follow-up to this by Mark Hoffman, K2AXX, Rochester VHF Group Chairman:

I don't know if you saw this information on the web, but I've gotten some summaries in this message. The websites I found this information on (thanks to K2OS for the heads-up!) are as follows:

<http://www.arrludson.org> - the Hudson Division website.

<http://www.arrl.org> - ARRL Website

The bottom line here is, we've got a proposal in front of the State Government — we need ALL THE LETTERS, EMAIL and PHONECALLS you can muster. If you're interested in putting up towers, and have hassles with your town (W2FU, et al) about putting up even a simple structure — you need to do some legwork. Even if YOU aren't planning a tower, perhaps our fellow club members might.

The ARRL Hudson section website has a lookup for your local State Senator and Assemblyperson if you don't happen to know it off the top of your head.

Write a letter (they've got a form on the website with standard verbage already — cut, paste and Email!) The more they see, the more they'll be prone to passing it.

DX/Contesting Report

Ed Gable K2MP

The May DX-pedition to look for, and it should be easy, will be a multi-national team of ops going to Agalega as 3B6RF. All bands and modes will be activated from 5 to 16 May. USA stations can QSL via N3SL. Operating until the end of May will be D7ØIAF. (Delta-seven-zero) celebrating the opening of the new Incheon (Korea) International Airport.

Those of you who worked the easy to catch ET3VSC from semi-rare Ethiopia will be glad to know that this station has been accepted by the ARRL for DXCC status.

A surprise last month was VP8SGK showing up on the bands from South Georgia. Mike, GMØHCQ, was there for work and has left the Island by now. QSL to home call. Another nice catch was St.Peter/Paul rocks as ZYØSAT. QSL that one via PS7JN.

There are way too many IOTA operations to mention. This activity of working *Islands on the Air* (IOTA) is really catching on fast and is much fun after filling your logs with most all DX entities. Search IOTA for their web page and join the fun.

Speaking of Web-pages, look for the new RDXA web-page at their new site; RDXA.COM. Thanks to Scott, K2ZS, for the new page and arranging for the RDXA domain name.

The contest this month is the CQ Worldwide WPX CW weekend of May 26 and 27.

The next meeting of the RDXA will be May 15th, 7:30 PM at the usual 111 Westfall Road location. There will be a VE session as well starting at 6:00 PM.

**RARA Amateur Radio
License Testing
All Elements Needed
To Complete a License Class**

**Saturday
May 19, 2001**

**Registration - 8:30AM
Testing - 9:00AM
Social Services Building
111 Westfall Rd., Rochester**

**Inquires (716) 334-4488
aa2fo@rpa.net**

**Rochester Hamfest
June 1, 2, And 3
2001**

**NEXT RAG DEADLINE
MAY 18, 2001**

**RARA Family Picnic
June 16, 2001
Creekside Cabin
Ellison Park**

RARA RAG 7

License Class Update

Tim Magee, WB2KAO

Classes are moving along toward the testing date of May 14, 2001. Hats off to John's Extra Class who started with 9 students and still has all 9 students remaining. The other classes are holding their own. Norm plans on briefing the students on the exam format and procedures at the May 7 class.

As always I thank my teaching staff for their dedication to this project.

Teacher Wanted

Norm Turner, WB2LQB

I will be taking over as License Class Director for the 2001-2002 year of classes and testing. I need a volunteer to teach the Technician Theory class for the Fall and Spring semester of that year. Please contact me at 254-0137 or by e-mail at wb2lqb@arrl.net. Thanks very much.

RRRA

Rachel Schwing, KC2DKB

RRRA will be meeting at the Pittsford Town Hall on May 18th. Al Skiles, W2AES, will be our guest speaker. He will be telling us about the International Lighthouse Weekend. And he can probably tell you anything you want to know about lighthouses, too.

June 8th will be the annual meeting with elections for the 2001-2002 season. Plan on attending these meetings.

FOR SALE: Icom 275H, 2 meter multimode base, 100w. w/voice module. Icom 375A, 220 MHz multimode base, 30w. w/P.S. Icom 475H, 440 MHz multimode base, 100w. w/voice module. Icom 575H, 6 & 10 meter multimode base, 100w. w/voice module and preamp. All excellent inside and out. Contact WA2ZNC, Len, at 716-229-5470, or email at wa2znc@juno.com.

NEXT RAG DEADLINE
MAY 18, 2001

FOR SALE: Homemade 1/4 wave, seven-foot long 2 meter vertical covered in PVC. Call Charlie, KB2ZFJ, 266-0878.

RARA RAG 8

China Clippings

Ron Roach, W2FUI

HANGZHOU: The change from a state-owned industrial system, with guaranteed job status, to an emerging entrepreneurial system is quite evident here in Hangzhou. Thanks to Han, BZ5HAN's after hours involvement with the setting up of net bar computers and servers in several locations in the city, I not only received an inside view of the emerging market system but found myself involved in the process of setting up computers, cloning operating systems and fabricating these units as I worked with him.

In Hangzhou there are five large technical marketplaces in the northeast part of the city. Originally, these factories were established under the state, some of which cover a city block. As these state facilities became less and less profitable, they were closed and the facility divided into a warren of individual private enterprises. Several times I became lost inside these gigantic factories, looking for a specific booth. Within these booths, measuring no more than ten by fifteen feet in area, couples, relatives, and friends spend each day constructing computers from components supplied from adjoining booths, selling software and all manner of peripherals. More than once we have paused in the early afternoon to push aside the hard drives, motherboards and power supplies of a computer under construction to eat a hasty lunch consisting of rice, Chinese vegetables and "meat" (origin unknown) before borrowing a Windows 2000 OS CD-ROM to clone yet another hard drive.

Often the work in progress is interrupted to allow a customer who has selected a piece of software from a booth elsewhere in the facility to test run the software before purchase. I quickly learned all software under consideration for purchase is examined before purchase, all audio CDs, DVDs, and VCDs (quite popular in China) are also viewed before purchase.

When I asked Han about this practice he offered to spend a day with me at two of the other centers.

Next month I accompany him to the Electronics Center and the Audio/Video Center in Hangzhou.

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course it helped that he was living in Buenos Aires at the time...

His first ham radio experience was in 1965 when a neighborhood Elmer in NYC introduced him to the joys of working DX on 15 and chewing the rag on 2M AM using a Benton Harbor lunch box. The digital modes have been his primary interest, and in the past 15 years or so — he has been maintaining the Kodak Park node (KPARK) and BBS (WB2WXQ). He is currently the last elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Kodak Park Amateur Radio Club, a member of the Rochester Amateur Packet Society and the trustee for the APRS digipeater, KB2WYA.

Roger Harnaart, WB2BWQ

The country boy is still with me, even though I've lived in Henrietta for more than 45 years. The family includes my wife, Ruth, N2MXN, and son, Kenneth, N2MXB. My work, with RG&E, was mostly electronics — SCADA, two-way radio, sound, CCTV, and testing machines — for both the electric and gas sides of the company. I also had a side job of maintaining the truck radios for several local fire departments.

WB2BWQ is my original call, so you can figure my years as an Amateur. Seventy five percent of my "air time" is Public Service work, which dates back to the sixties, and the rest of the time is on Packet. As a family, we have worked on the STPR and several other PRO Rally's, the Mt. Washington Hill Climb, many horse events, the Ginna Drill, and The Empire State Games. Ruth and I are RACES members.

I have served several years on the RARA Board and am a past President of RARA, and have served the same capacities in the Genesee Valley Fire Department. This should give me a bit of knowledge on the RARA Board if you so desire. I am hoping to keep up with the Amateur Radio of the future, for the Club of the future and maybe a little bit for me.

Jack Tripp, N2SNL

I have been married for 40 years to my wife Marilyn, have 4 children, 7 grandchildren, all of whom are living in the Rochester area. Very unusual in this day and age. I am retired and have been a ham for 8 ½ years. This gives me lots of time to play radio and computer. I am active on VHF, HF, and packet. I have participated in several public service events, Pumpkin Patrol, Ginna Drill, Walnut Hill Horse Carriage Driving Competition, etc. In the past I helped in the Radio Coaches program and still help on occasion. I am currently on the RARA Board of Directors completing my fifth term of office. I have been a Holdsworth Coolie for several years helping set up for the Hamfest and again this year I am in charge of advanced tickets sales. I am currently editor of the RAPSsheet, the

newsletter of RAPS, Rochester Amateur Packet Society. I hope you will re-elect me to the RARA Board of Directors.

Ed Holdsworth, N2EH

I have lived in the town of Mendon since I was released from active duty with the Navy in 1954. Joyce and I have five sons, four who live in this area and one that lives with his family in Western Colorado.

I was first licensed in 1968 with the call WN2EKR, and now hold the Extra class license with the call N2EH. I have been active in RARA since getting my first license and have served RARA for the past thirty-two years. I have served as Secretary, Vice President, President, and on the Board of Directors. I assisted with the license class when I was first licensed, starting as an assistant then as the director for several years. I also planned and coordinated several camping weekends each year in the 1970's and 1980's when we had more activities than we presently have. I am presently the Assistant General Chairman of the Rochester Hamfest and have worked on the Hamfest for the past twenty-nine years. I am also the Emergency Coordinator for ARES and RACES Radio Officer for Monroe County and the Affiliated Club Coordinator for the Western NY section. I am the trustee of our club station, K2JD, a post I have held since 1971. The station has grown over the years since it got the first piece of equipment, a Heathkit HW-16. It now has two HF stations, one 6 Meter station, 4 Packet stations and an ATV repeater/station, plus a great deal of peripheral gear.

I am also a life member RARA, ARRL and Amsat and a member of QCWA.

Historical Bits

Ed Gable, K2MP

- 1912 - 8/13/12, Amateur Radio Service starts under Department of Commerce
- 1934 - Federal Communications Commission formed
- 1948 - Military Amateur Radio Service (MARS) was formed by the Department of Defense

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